

CLAIMS

1. Operating terminal for a system of devices or a machine, particularly for an automation system, comprising:

- a display (13) with a screen used in non-graphic mode, capable of displaying pages organised in menus and composed of lines (14) for use for the operator's dialogue with the system, particularly for surveillance, diagnostic and control purposes,
 - at least one scroll device (16c) and function keys (16), the text pages comprising symbols (S) placed in the lines (14) and denoting function keys,
 - the scroll device (16c) is useable by the operator to select a line (14),
 - a dialogue application created by the operator and comprising dialogue data that can be displayed on lines (14) in text form (T) using alphanumeric characters and internal software (18) capable of processing dialogue data and managing the display process,
- characterised by the fact that:
- at least one line (14) displayed on the display (13) defines two Boolean control actions applicable to at least one automation device, the line containing two corresponding symbols (Sa, Sb) representing Boolean control actions,
 - two function keys (16a, 16b) on the left and right sides of the display that could be unambiguously designated by the Boolean control action symbols (Sa, Sb), and can be pressed by the operator to perform either of the two Boolean control actions specific to the

line (14s), after the corresponding line (14s) has been selected.

2. Terminal according to claim 1, characterised by the fact that selecting the line (14s) causes selection of the two control action symbols (Sa, Sb), each control action attached to a symbol being triggered by pressing the corresponding function key (16a,16b).

3. Terminal according to claim 1, characterised by the fact that at least one of the text lines (14) is composed of a left part and a right part, defining two corresponding dual control actions, and the corresponding two control action symbols (Sa, Sb) are representative of dual functions of the same component (A) in the system of devices.

4. Terminal according to claim 1, characterised by the fact that selecting a line (14s) determines the display of a visual attribute specific to the control action symbol(s) (Sa, Sb).

5. Terminal according to claim 1, characterised by the fact that the control action symbol (20a,20b) is representative of the current state of the Boolean variable to which the control action is applicable.

6. Terminal according to claim 1, characterised by the fact that the Boolean control action triggered by pressing the function key (16a,16b) is of the held type or the single press type.

7. Terminal according to claim 1, characterised by the fact that the Boolean control action triggered by pressing the function key (16a,16b) is of the set type or the reset type.

8. Terminal according to claim 1, characterised by the fact that apart from a Boolean control action, a transfer action, or an increment / decrement action are provided, and the control action symbol (S) is then a transfer action symbol (21) or an increment / decrement control action symbol (22).

9. Terminal according to claim 8, characterised by the fact that, when the control action is of the increment or decrement type, the left (16a) function key is associated with increment and the right (16b) function key is associated with decrement.

10. Terminal according to claim 8, characterised by the fact that, when the control action is of the transfer or increment / decrement type, a specific display is attached to the corresponding symbol while the action is being carried out.

11. Terminal according to claim 1, characterised by the fact that when a page is displayed, no lines with control action symbols will be selected, a control action cannot be activated until the corresponding line (14s) has been selected using the scroll device (16c).

12. Terminal according to claim 1, characterised by the fact that action symbols (S) and texts of lines (14) are composed exclusively of ASCII characters.

13. Terminal according to claim 1, characterised by the fact that each action symbol (S) comprises an arrow (Fa, Fb) pointing towards the left or towards the right, the function keys (16a,16b) being arranged on the side of the screen and arrows are marked on them in the same direction as the adjacent arrow (Fa, Fb).

14. Operating terminal for a system of devices or a machine, particularly for an automation system, comprising:

- 5 - a display (13) with a screen used in non-graphic mode, capable of displaying pages organised in menus and composed of lines (14) for use for the operator's dialogue with the system, particularly for surveillance, diagnostic and control purposes,
- 10 - at least one scroll device (16c) and function keys (16), the text pages comprising symbols (S) placed in the lines (14) and denoting function keys,
- the scroll device (16c) is useable by the operator to select a line (14),
- 15 - a dialogue application created by the operator and comprising dialogue data that can be displayed on lines (14) in text form (T) using alphanumeric characters and internal software (18) capable of processing dialogue data and managing the display process,
- characterised by the fact that:
 - 20 - at least one line (14) displayed on the display (13) defines two control actions applicable to an automation device, these actions being Boolean control actions, or increment / decrement control actions, depending on the line considered, the line comprising two
 - 25 corresponding symbols (Sa, Sb) on the left and right and representing control actions,
 - two function keys (16a, 16b) on the left and right sides of the display that could be unambiguously designated by the control action symbols (Sa, Sb), and
 - 30 can be pressed by the operator to perform either of the two control actions specific to the line.

